

Auburn to Host 2001 Landowner Conference

The Eighteenth Annual Alabama Landowner and TREASURE Forest Conference will be held in Auburn on October 25-26, 2001. The Auburn University Hotel and Dixon Conference Center will be the venue for the indoor portion of the conference.

A \$55 registration fee will include all events: a landowner tour, banquet, indoor sessions and luncheon. Registration will start at 10 a.m. on October 25 in the lobby the conference center.

The first event will be a tour of the Raymond Newman TREASURE Forest in Lee County, which provides an excellent example of multiple-use forestland management. Buses will begin leaving from the parking area of the AU Dixon Conference Center at 12 noon on Thursday, October 25. Participants should eat lunch beforehand or bring a sack lunch to eat on the bus. Mr. Newman's management objectives are wildlife and timber. The bus tour will show off many aspects of his property, which has been a certified TREASURE Forest for more than 20 years.

The tour will include stops on wildlife, pond management and timber marketing. Mr. Newman actively manages for deer, turkey, dove and quail. Some of the hunting rights to his property are leased to the Realtree® camouflage clothing company. They tape celebrity hunts for use on their television

show and videos. Mr. Newman also employs a full-time wildlife biologist for the property. During the stop on pond management, a seining demonstration will take place. In addition, there will be outdoor displays from natural resources related vendors.



A banquet on Thursday night will honor some outstanding TREASURE Forest landowners and county forestry planning committees. It will begin at

6:45 p.m. in the AU Dixon Conference Center. A dessert social will be held after the banquet so attendees can have an opportunity to congratulate the award winners.

Indoor technical sessions will take place on Friday morning. Participants will be able to choose four of six sessions, which include the following topics:

- What the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Means to Alabama Landowners
- Wildlife Habitat Management for Food Sources
- Forestry Road Design and Construction
- Forest Management Strategies for Landowners
- Softwood Lumber Markets
- Developing a Fully Integrated Management Plan

Landowners may earn credits for the Forest Masters program by attending the indoor sessions and the tour.

A luncheon hosted by the Alabama TREASURE Forest Association will end the conference on Friday.

The Alabama TREASURE Forest Association will also be conducting its annual silent auction during the conference. Bids will be received all day Thursday and up until the luncheon on Friday. Items to be auctioned will include handmade crafts and forestry-related items. If you have an item you would like to donate for the auction, contact Joan Malone at 251-442-2424. Proceeds from the silent auction go towards the ATFA's educational programs.

Some exhibit space is also available. Call Tom Counts at 205-489-5111 for more information, or e-mail him at tcounts@fs.fed.us.

Please register early by using the form on page 31. Registration after the cutoff date of October 15 is \$65, and no refunds will be given after October 18. For more information about registration call Fran Whitaker at 334-265-8733. ☐

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